



Kingston Conservation Advisory Council  
Monthly Meeting, Conference Room 2  
Minutes

Date: November 3, 2011 6:30-8:30pm

Roll Call: 6:32 pm

**Board Members**

Julie Noble (Chair)	Present
Judith Deming	Present
Elizabeth Higgins (Secretary)	Present
Gregg Swanzey	Present
Casey Schwarz	Present

**Welcome Guests and Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

**Guests:**

Amanda LaValle, UC Department of the Environment  
Josh Hunn, SCA Hudson Valley  
Ilona Ross

**Approval of August, October Minutes**

Elizabeth Higgins has lost the minutes from August and October and she is very ashamed.

**Old Business**

1. Green Guide for Kingston – No new news. For the record we are adapting the Woodstock CAC's Green Guide to Kingston. Judith has requested comments and updates. We anticipate that there will be many changes.
2. CAC Website – Julie provided the City of Kingston social media policy to the CAC. The CAC has decided to follow the general guidelines outlined in the policy. The website: [www.kingstoncac.org](http://www.kingstoncac.org). The next renewal date is March 2012, CIXdesigns, a local firm who developed the site pro-bono for us will be able to host for \$90 which includes renewal of the domain name. It is already mostly built on the Joomla platform. They can train the CAC members who will be updating the website. Will ask him to make it live and ask if Adam Mastropaolo can come to the next meeting to teach us how to update it.
3. CAC member recruitment, terms. Julie submitted an article to the newspaper recruiting new members. Judith recommended sending to the Main Street Manager for distribution. She recommended sending it to the three business groups and the Business Alliance. Kevin Quilty - uptown, BC Gee – downtown?, Patrice Courtney-Strong– midtown. David Lemmon, Ulster County Community College, Facebook, League of Women Voters, Service Organizations (Kiwans and Rotary). Judith will find the service organizations. We have 4 vacant seats that we can fill. We would like to have a youth representative if we can.
4. Adopted revised Kingston CAC Rules and Procedures, amending the meeting time and date. (Greg moved, Liz seconded, adopted unanimously)

**New Business**

1. **Pesticide Use on City Property.** Guest, Amanda LaValle, County Department of the Environment, Chair of County committee charged with implementing County pesticide ban.

At the last meeting we discussed what it would be like to adopt a policy similar to the County's policy. Amanda presented on the history of the County Law: 2 types of exemptions, one for health reasons – through the Health Dept., the other through a committee (Non-toxic pest management Advisory Committee: Department of the Environment, EMC, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Public Works, UC SWCD).

- a. Law requires that the use of toxic pesticides for turf maintenance is prohibited
- b. If toxic products must be used, then the least toxic method shall be the method of choice, if practicable
- c. All controlled products used under this policy must be on the approved list of NOFA-NY
- d. All county employees involved with turf management must receive education and training
- e. Have a list of properties owned and leased by Ulster County on the website so that the public can see where spraying is prohibited.

The Advisory committee granted one waiver CMRR in 2010, did not let them spray in populated parts of Kingston and did not allow one of the herbicides to be used. They also required a vegetation management plan as a condition of future waivers.

There is currently no enforcement in the law, though this has not been an issue for the most part as it is county land. The Head of maintenance for the County has been a strong supporter and the law has been accepted and implemented better than expected. Law has been great for stormwater reporting for MS4. County has reduced fertilizer use too.

#### Issues for Kingston

- a. Partners who maintain city land
- b. Homeowners (city right of ways on sidewalks)

#### Next Steps

- a. What are we expending now? This would be in the Stormwater report
- b. What impact has it had on the County Budget? How would it be translated to Kingston?

#### **2. Correspondence: Re: Trailways bus emissions, Rcvd 10/20/11**

Citizen wrote to Julie Noble has seen black smoke from busses. We will find out who to report this to and respond to the citizen concerned. Judith will also include this in the Green Guide.

#### **3. Kingston CAC Year End Report, 2011, submissions needed**

Please provide updated trainings and improvements to qualifications to Julie. She would like to complete the report before the end of the year.

#### **4. Proposed letter of support for the Kingston Parks and Recreation Departments application for the Environmental Protection Fund for 4 new composting bathrooms with solar panels at parks in Kingston. Committee agreed to sign the letter.**

#### Updates:

1. NRI Committee (Julie) – Kristen Wilson has confirmed that she would like to be on the NRI committee.
2. Comprehensive Planning Committee (Gregg) – 1 meeting to date, nothing new since the last report
3. Climate Action Planning (Casey)- Rich and Casey are gathering data from the Employee Commuter Survey.
4. Planning Board Meeting (Julie) – Building at Maritime Museum for Clearwater for education was item of concern. Problem with the building design in the floodplain. Liz/Judith will attend the next meetings.

5. Public Safety/General Government/Auditing Meeting (Gregg) Passed a resolution supporting Kingston Land Trust in working with the Trolley Museum to transfer rail lease to KLT.
6. Conference on the Environment (Julie) Conference at Renssalaerville. Julie presented about climate action planning in Kingston
7. Clearwater's Climate Justice Council Meeting (Julie) Initiative that is grant funded, for planning a few community education and outreach projects, still in beginning stage, may somehow merge with CSGJC Taskforce
8. Tree Commission Meetings – Judith has been trying to meet with them, to no avail. Julie will follow up.

Motion to adjourn: Casey moved, Judith 2<sup>nd</sup>.

\*Upcoming Meeting: CAC monthly meeting, December 1st, City Hall, Conference Room 2, 6:30pm\*

**Adjournment:** 8:51pm

*Submitted by Liz Higgins.*